

Message Text

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60

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 NSC-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08 SS-20 SCEM-02

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /146 W

----- 079370

R 221257Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8367

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4440

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENGR PFOR KU

SUBJ: JAPANESE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT KUWAIT

REF: A. CAIRO 4116; B. JIDDA 5607

SUMMARY: JAPANESE DEPUTY PM MIKI MADE 4-DAY VISIT KUWAIT IN COURSE
ME TOUR. HE SAW ALL TOP GOK OFFICIALS AND WAS CORDIALLY RECEIVED.
ALTHOUGH KUWAITIS APPEARED TO BE SYMPATHETIC, THEY GAVE NO RPT NO
COMMITMENTS. END SUMMARY

1. JAPANESE VICE PREMIER TAKEO MIKI AND DELEGATION VISITED KUWAIT
DEC 18-22 ON MID-EAST TOUR. DURING VISIT HE CALLED ON AMIR,
CROWN PRINCE/PRIME MINISTER AND OTHER TOP GOK OFFICIALS AS
WELL AS OAPEC SEC GEN. DELEGATION DEPARTED DEC 22 FOR ABU DHABI.
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2. ON DEC 19 FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMED TOLD PRESS, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION RE OIL SUPPLY TO JAPAN, THAT KUWAIT COORDINATES HER OIL POLICY WITH OTHER ARAB OIL PRODUCING STATES AND POINTED OUT THAT OAPEC MINISTERS ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET AGAIN DEC 27. DURING VISIT MIKI PRAISED KUWAITI-JAPANESE RELATIONS AND SAID TWO COUNTRIES WILL WORK HARD TO BOOST ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND CONSIDERABLY INCREASE VOLUME OF TRADE IN FUTURE.

3. COMMENT: JAPANESE CHARGE KUWAIT TOLD DCM DEC 22 THAT GOJ SOMEWHAT ENCOURAGED WITH WELCOME ACCORDED MIKI IN SAUDI-ARABIA ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD ANY CHANGE LIKELY TO REQUIRE OAPEC APPROVAL. CHARGE EXPRESSED AMAZEMENT THAT KING FAISAL APPARENTLY DID NOT KNOW JAPAN NOT BEING TREATED AS A "FRIENDLY" COUNTRY ALONG WITH UK, FRANCE, SPAIN AND OTHERS. THIS HAS LED JAPS TO BELIEVE THAT "OIL COMPANIES" ARE MAKING ALLOCATIONS IN ABSENCE OF CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS FROM SAG. DCM SAID HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT SAG HAD GIVEN EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS TO COMPANIES WHICH THEY REQUIRED CARRY OUT.

4. MIKI CORDIALLY RECEIVED BY KUWAITIS, WHO SEEMED SYMPATHETIC, BUT THEY GAVE NO CONCRETE ASSURANCE THAT JAPANESE OIL REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE MET. CHARGE POINTED OUT THAT KUWAIT, LIKE ABU DHABI, DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE IN FAVOR "FRIENDLY COUNTRIES" BUT CUTS EXPORTS EQUALLY, AMONG ALL COUNTRIES IT SUPPLIES, PROPORTIONAL TO DECREASED PRODUCTION. THUS MIKI VISIT KUWAIT WAS UNLIKELY TO DO MORE THAN MAINTAIN JAPAN'S PRESENT STATUS. CHARGE SAID THAT JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO KUWAIT FELT THAT NO MATTER WHAT CONCESSIONS JAPS MADE TO ARABS LATTER STILL UNLIKELY TO IMPROVE OIL SUPPLY TO JAPAN MARKEDLY. HE SAID KUWAITIS MADE NO DEMAND FOR BREAKING RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.

5. CHARGE IMPLIED THAT JAPANESE EMBASSY KUWAIT HAD RECOMMENDED AGAINST MIKI VISIT AT THIS TIME BUT THAT GOJ WAS UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM PROMINENT BUSINESSMEN AND OTHERS TO TAKE SOME ACTION.

6. CHARGE'S DESCRIPTION OF RESULTS MIKI MISSION KUWAIT SUPPORTED BY REMARKS MEMBER MIKI DELEGATION TO AMBASSADOR DEC 19 WHO STATED THAT KUWAITIS WERE CORDIAL AND SYMPATHETIC BUT DID NOT MAKE ANY COMMITMENTS.

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STOLTZFUS

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Errors: N/A
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